

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS GUIDELINES**

- National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)
- Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations
- FAA Order 1050.1

### **Notice of Intent (Begins the NEPA Process)**

- Lead agency publishes notices of intent in the Federal Register describing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
- Notice needs to include possible alternatives and proposed scoping activities.
- Notice should state the name and address of the lead agency's contact for the EIS.
- Notice should be published as soon as practical after the decision to prepare an EIS and before the scoping process.

### **Scoping (Public Involvement)**

- FAA publishes notice of community meetings in local newspapers.
- Scoping determines the scope of the issues to be addressed in the EIS.
- Determines the significant issues related to the proposed action.
- Scoping process invites participation from other federal, state and local agencies and the general public.
- Community meetings are held to educate and explain the actions considered and receive comments.
- Scoping determines topics that can be eliminated from the study in the EIS.

### **Draft Environmental Statement (DEIS)**

- Utilizing comments, suggestions and alternatives acquired during the scoping process a DEIS is written.
- A Federal Register notice and local media notice that the DEIS has been prepared and is being circulated will be made by the responsible agency.
- The announcements should contain information on the availability of the DEIS.

### **Public Workshops/Hearings (Public Involvement)**

- The public and federal, state and local agencies are invited to review and comment on the DEIS.

### **Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)**

- Utilizing the comments through community involvement and the public workshop/hearing process on the DEIS, the FEIS will be written.
- Every effort should be made to resolve environmental impacts.
- The FEIS should contain all commenting letters and responses or a summary if volume of letters is too great.
- After careful review, the lead agency identifies its preferred alternative.

### **Record of Decision (ROD)**

- The lead agency's decision regarding the preferred alternative is documented in the ROD.
- The ROD identifies all alternatives considered in reaching the decision, specifying the evaluations and analysis of the environmentally preferred alternative.
- The Rod states whether all practical means to avoid harm from the selected alternative have been adopted and if not why not.